

A NEW SPECIES OF *SALVIA* (LAMIACEAE) FROM NORTHERN MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

Salvia jaimehintoniana Ramamoorthy *spec. nov.* is described and illustrated. It occurs in Durango, Hidalgo, Nuevo León, and Tamaulipas, and belongs to the sect. *Farinaceae* sensu Epling. It has previously been described as *S. azurea* var. *mexicana* Epling. When elevated to specific status it must take on another epithet, the name *S. mexicana* L. having priority at the species level. Because of this, the new name, *S. jaimehintoniana*, with new typification is proposed. The distinctions between *S. azurea* and *S. jaimehintoniana* are discussed, and a map showing their distributions in Texas and México is provided.

KEY WORDS: Lamiaceae, *Salvia*, México, *Salvia azurea*, systematics

Routine identification of Mexican salvias has prompted the present study.

SALVIA JAIMEHINTONIANA Ramamoorthy, *spec. nov.* Figure 1. TYPE: MEXICO. Nuevo León: Mpio. Zaragoza, 4.3 road mi. S of Zaragoza on the road to Aserradero la Encantada, 20 May 1988, *Burford L. Westlund 24* (HOLOTYPE: TEX!).

Similis *S. azurea* Lam. sed differt lobis superis (conjunctis) calycum acutis (vice lorum obtusorum), bracteis floralibus late ovatis et persistentibus (vice bractearum lanceolatarum et mox deciduarum).

Perennial herbs 30-50 cm high, forming fascicles of tuberous roots. Stems stiffly erect, relatively unbranched or remotely branched, minutely hispidulous to subglabrate, the nodes pilose with hairs 0.6-1.0 mm long. Midstem leaves elliptical, lance-elliptical to lance-obovate, pinnately nervate; petioles 3-15 mm long; blades mostly 4-10 cm long, 1.2-3.5 cm wide, subglabrous or pubescent along the major veins, undersurfaces markedly glandular-punctate, the margins crenulodentate to nearly entire. Flowers 4-8 to a node, arranged in terminal interrupted spikes. Bracts ovate, persistent, 6-10 mm long, 3-5 mm wide, appressed-pubescent dorsally, the margins ciliate. Calyces 6-8 mm long, flaring upwards, 3-5 mm wide at orifice (pressed); upper lip ca. 2 mm long with 7 well-defined hispidulous ribs. Corollas

blue, 15-18 mm long; tubes 2-3 mm long; throats abruptly bulging below, 4-6 mm long (tube and throat 6-10 mm long); lower lip, 3-lobed, 6-9 mm long; upper lip densely puberulous, 3-4 mm long; tubes and throat not papillose within, or but weakly so. Anthers included within the upper lip, attached near the orifice of the throat. Styles pubescent above, the upper style branches ca. 3 mm long, the lower branches ca. 1 mm long. Fruits ovoid, smooth, ca. 2 mm long, 1.5 mm wide.

REPRESENTATIVE SPECIMENS EXAMINED: MEXICO. Durango: Mpio. de Tepehuanes, El Tarahumar, 2720 m, 27 Aug 1983, *Tenorio 4200* (TEX). Hidalgo: 6.5 air km ENE of Jacala, 1700 m, 13 Jul 1991, *Mayfield et al. 820* (TEX). Nuevo León: Mpio. Galeana, above El Carrizo, 1900 m, 16 Oct 1983, *Hinton et al. 18615* (TEX); along road from Agua Blanca to San Miguel, pine-oak forests, 2030 m, 28 Aug 1991, *Hinton et al. 21276* (Hinton herbarium); above Agua Blanca, oakwoods, 2305 m, 4 Jul 1992, *Hinton et al. 22285* (Hinton herbarium); ca. 30 mi S of Monterrey, 13 Aug 1934, *C.H. & M.T. Mueller 1335* (TEX); area of Cerro Peña Nevada, ca. 12 km NE of San Antonio Peña Nevada, N and NW slopes of mt. known locally as Picacho Onofre, Jul 1977, *Wells & Nesom 345, 374, 440* (TEX). Tamaulipas: ca. 6 km NW of Rancho El Cielo, ca. 12 km NW of Gómez Farías, 1900 m, 12 Aug 1991, *Ilitis 30724* (TEX).

This species is represented at LL, TEX by twenty or more collections and is presumably the same as *Salvia azurea* subsp. *mexicana* Epling, the latter typified by collections from near Galeana, Nuevo León (Photoisotypes: TEX!; Paratype: *Mueller 1335* [TEX!]). I have given the plants concerned a new specific name with new typification since the name *S. mexicana* L. is preoccupied, precluding the elevation of Epling's subspecific epithet.

Salvia jaimehintoniana belongs to the sect. *Farinaceae* as circumscribed by Epling (1939, 1940), having the perennial habit, interrupted inflorescence with persistent bracts, upper lip of the calyx with 5-7 ribs, and corolla features of species belonging to that difficult complex.

The specimen cited from Hidalgo differs from the other collections in having spreading pilose hairs, the vestiture along the stems mostly 0.5-1.0 mm high; in all other characters, however, it is like the type material. The rather isolated specimen from Durango has all of the features of typical forms of *Salvia jaimehintoniana* except for its somewhat larger corollas and smaller floral bracts.

Salvia jaimehintoniana differs from *S. azurea* in having calyces with the upper fused lobes acute (vs. obtuse) and floral bracts broadly ovate and persistent (vs. lanceolate and early deciduous). The former is confined to México; the latter to the U.S.A. (Figure 1).

Ramamoorthy (by annotation) first called attention to this specific novelty, and I have retained the name which he proposed. He did not, however, recognize its affinities nor provide information as to its sectional affiliation; these are my own. The epithet honors Jaime Hinton, son of the late George Hinton, renown collector of Mexican plants.



Figure 1. *Salvia jaimehintoniana*, from holotype.

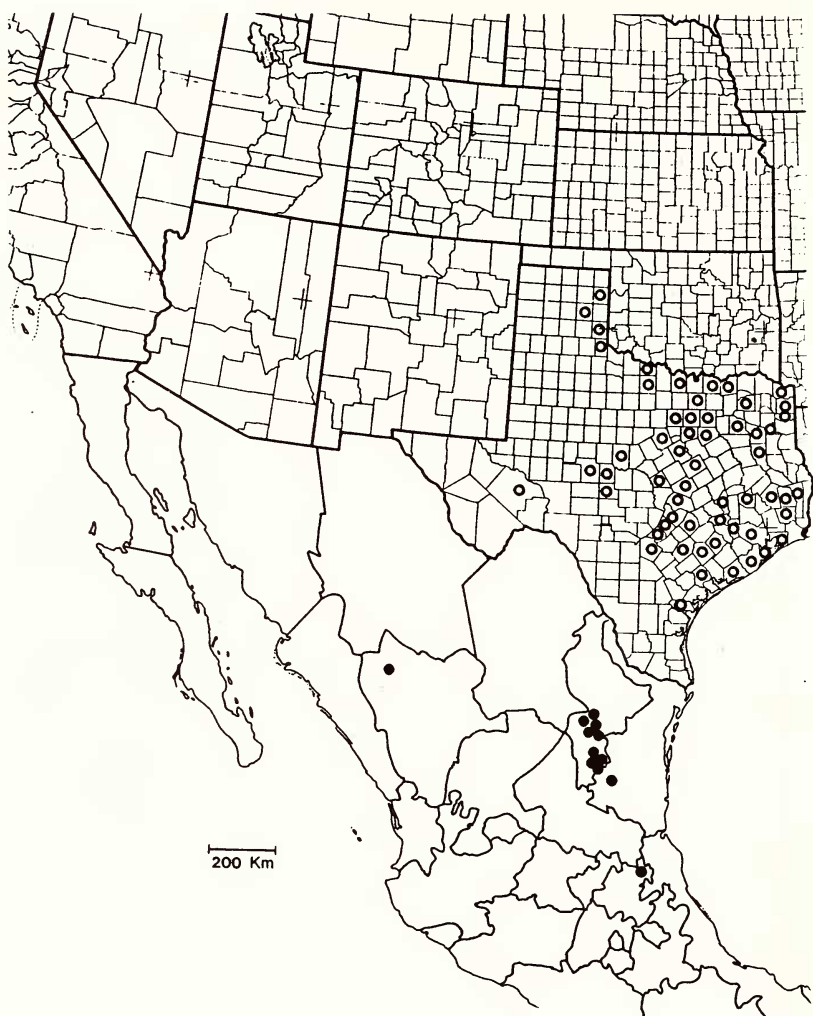


Figure 2. Distribution of *Salvia azurea* (open circles, in Texas; it is absent in México); and *S. jaimehintoniana*. Based upon specimens at LL, TEX.

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